

CT Bottle Bill Stakeholder Meeting

August 9, 2021



Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Housekeeping

- This meeting is being recorded.
- Please keep your microphones muted unless called upon to share information.
- If called upon to speak, please turn on your camera if an option.



Agenda

- I. Welcome and Opening Remarks - Commissioner Katie Dykes & Sen. Christine Cohen
- II. Overview of CT Bottle Bill as modified by P.A. 21-58 - Chris Nelson, CT DEEP
- III. Panel Discussion - Jules Bailey, OBRC & Susan Collins, CRI
- IV. Stakeholder / Public Comment
- V. Next Steps



Opening Remarks

Commissioner Katie Dykes

Sen. Christine Cohen



Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Overview of CT's Bottle Bill Program and Public Act 21-58

Chris Nelson

Supervising Environmental Analyst, CT DEEP



Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

CT BB Program – Key Timeline Events

- Law passed in 1978 and went into effect 1/1/1980.
- Primary initial purpose of this program was to help reduce litter.
- In 2009, CT program expanded to include water containers. Also in 2009, unclaimed deposits (escheats) were directed to the state's General Fund (instead of remaining with the distributors).
- Public Act 21-58 passed, significantly modifying CT's program.



CT Bottle Bill Elements prior to P.A. 21-58

Element	1980	2019
Deposit	5¢	5¢
Beverages covered	Beer, other malt beverages, carbonated soft drinks, carbonated mineral water	Same + waters (water, flavored water, enhanced water, etc)
Container types covered	Any individual, separate, sealed glass, metal or plastic bottle, can, jar or carton containing a beverage.	Any individual, separate, sealed glass, metal or plastic bottle, can, jar or carton containing a beverage. Excluded are containers over 3L containing noncarbonated beverages and HDPE containers.
Handling fee	1¢ for all containers	Beer 1.5¢, other beverages 2¢
Redemption options	Retail stores and redemption centers	Retail stores and redemption centers
Unredeemed deposits	Retained by distributor/bottler	Returned to state



CT Bottle Bill Elements post P.A. 21-58

Element	
Deposit	10¢ (effective 1/1/24)
Beverages covered	Beer, other malt beverages, carbonated soft drinks, carbonated mineral water, waters (water, flavored water, enhanced water, etc) + hard seltzer, hard cider, plant water, juice, juice drink, tea, coffee, kombucha, plant infused drink, sports drink or energy drink (effective 1/1/23)
Container types covered	Any individual, separate, sealed glass, metal or plastic bottle, can, jar or carton three liters less of a carbonated beverage, or two and one-half liters or less of a noncarbonated beverage. "Beverage container" does not include any such bottle, can, jar or carton that contains less than one hundred fifty milliliters of any such carbonated or noncarbonated beverage.
Handling fee	Beer, hard seltzer, hard cider, other malt beverage - 2.5¢, All other covered beverages - 3.5¢ (effective 10/1/21)
Redemption options	Retail stores and redemption centers
Unredeemed deposits	FY22 – 100% returned to state , FY 23 -95% to state, FY 24 - 65% to state, FY 25 - 55% to state, FY26 & beyond - 45% to state

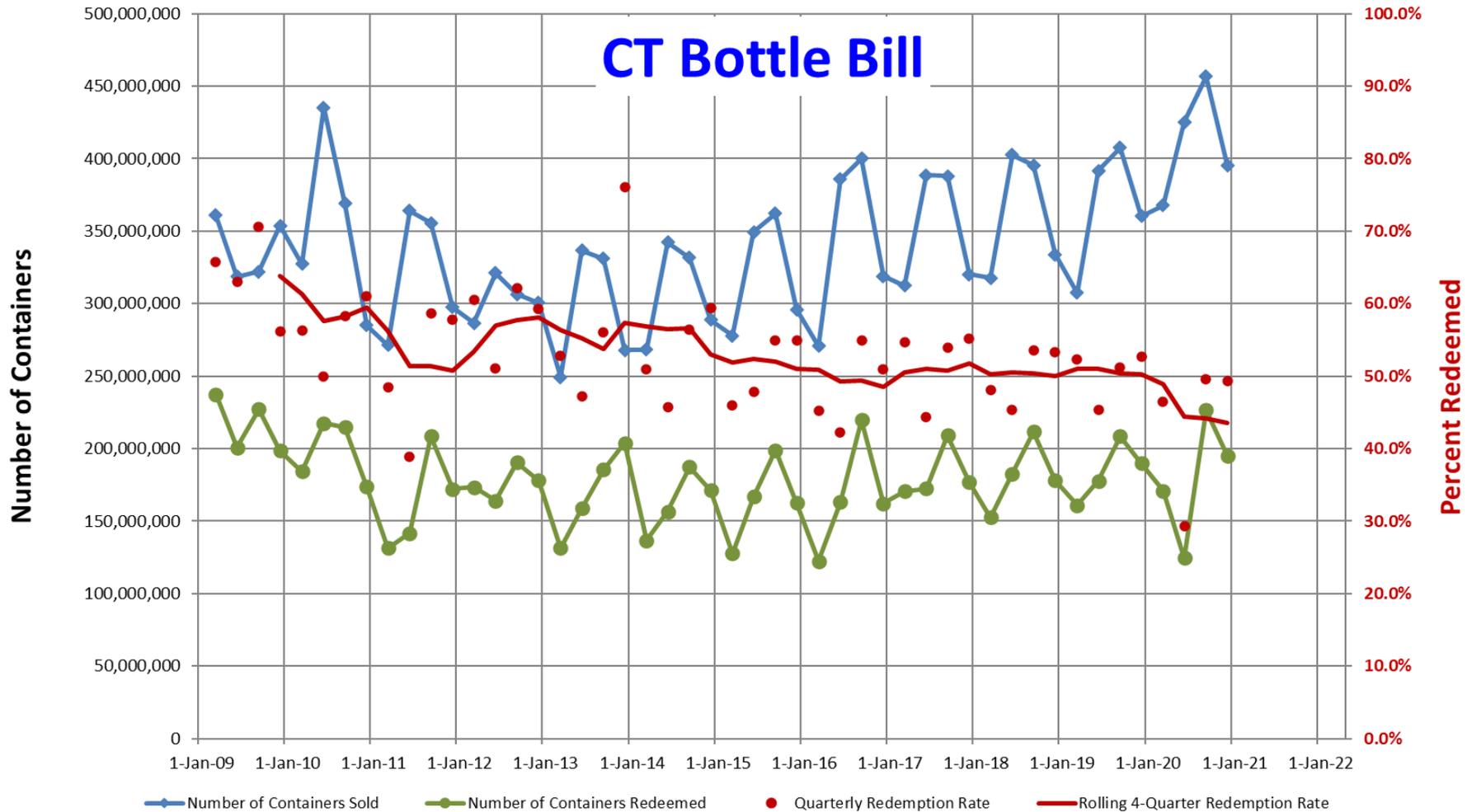


Other current CT BB Programs details

- The redemption rate in CT has been dropping and has been around 50% over the past few years.
- Retail stores are only required to take back the brands that they carry.
- Number of redemption centers in CT has been dropping.
- Occasional reports of cross-border fraud.



Redemption Rate



Elements of P.A. 21-58

NOT SUBJECT TO STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSION:

- Addition of new beverage types (Section 1)
- Increase of deposit amount from 5 to 10 cents (Section 2)
- Increase of the handling fees (Section 3)
- Payment of unclaimed deposits to CT DRS (Section 4)
- Exemption categories (Section 5)
- Requirement for certain retailers to install reverse vending machines, or RVMs (Section 7)
- New 5-cent surcharge applied to sale of miniature bottles (≤ 50 ml) containing spirits or liquor (Section 10)



Elements of P.A. 21-58 (Section 8)

FOCUS OF STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSION:

- Development the terms for a memorandum of agreement (MOA) that provides, by January 1, 2023, for the in-state processing of **not less than eighty per cent of the wine and liquor beverage containers sold in this state** into furnace-ready cullet or by-product that is melted or otherwise used in cement, glass or fiberglass products.
- DEEP “**shall identify the requisite parties** to such an agreement and engage such parties in ongoing discussions...”



Elements of P.A. 21-58 (Section 9)

FOCUS OF STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSION:

- Approval of the formation of a **beverage container stewardship organization** constituted by deposit initiators if such organization submits an application.
- Submittal of a plan, for the commissioner's review and approval, to operate a **state-wide beverage container stewardship program**. In developing any such plan, such organization shall obtain input from members of the independent redemption centers community, municipal resource recovery facilities, municipal leaders, wine and spirits distributors and reverse vending machine operators.



June Special Session, Public Act No. 21-2

FOCUS OF STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSION:

- Section 65: Established a beverage container recycling grant program account for new redemption centers in urban centers and environmental justice communities.
- Section 308(b)(15): Up to **\$5,000,000** for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, to establish and administer a program to support solid waste reduction strategies, **including a redemption center grant program**;



Panel Discussion

- Jules Bailey, Chief Stewardship Officer, Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative (OBRC)
- Susan Collins, Executive Director, Container Recycling Institute (CRI)



Stakeholder / Public Comments

- 3 minutes per speaker
- Please note your company and who you are representing (if different)
- 3 primary focus areas for comments:
 - Establishment of a stewardship organization and development of a stewardship plan
 - Capture of 80% of glass containers sold by wine & spirits distributors
 - Establishment of a grants program for new redemption centers



Next steps

- Written comments should be submitted by 11:59pm on August 27, 2021
- Materials related to this stakeholder process (including submitted comments) will be posted at:
<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Reduce-Reuse-Recycle/Bottles/Bottle-Bill-Stakeholder-Process>
- Any follow-up meetings will be posted on the above-noted page.



CT Bottle Bill Program Information

DEEP website:

- [Main BB overview](#)
- [BB stakeholder process](#) (new)
- [FAQs](#)
- [Redemption Centers](#)

BottleBill.org website

- [Main CT page](#)
- [CT BB program history](#)



Existing CT BB Laws & Regulations

- [RCSA 22a-245](#): Beverage Container Deposit and Redemption Regulation

CT General Statutes (CGS) for the CT Bottle Bill Program:

- [CGS 22a-243](#). Definitions.
- [CGS 22a-244](#). Beverage containers: Refund value; exceptions; labeling and design requirements.
- [CGS 22a-245](#). Registration of redemption centers. Payment of refund value by dealers and distributors. Handling fee. Regulations.
- [CGS 22a-245a](#). Special account of deposit initiator. Reimbursement payment. Reports. Deposit in General Fund. Subtraction of deficiency. Examination. Enforcement. Treatment as tax. Credit for containers donated for charitable purpose.
- [CGS 22a-245b](#). Exemption for small manufacturers re beverage containers containing noncarbonated beverages. Application. Approval.
- [CGS 22a-245c](#). Implementation delay re beverage containers containing noncarbonated beverages.
- [CGS 22a-245d](#). Regulations.
- [CGS 22a-246](#). Penalties.

